

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Magi NO. 0325545504

DOE yes xno

BA-2554

BALTIMORE COUNTY LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic MACGILL LOG HOUSE

and/or common MITON LOG HOUSE, STRONTIA LOG HOUSE

## 2. Location

street & number 8 Timothy's Green Court not for publicationcity, town Brooklandville x vicinity of Councilmanic District 2  
congressional district

state Maryland county Baltimore County

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<u>  </u> district	<u>  </u> public	<u>  x</u> occupied	<u>  </u> agriculture	<u>  </u> museum
<u>  x</u> building(s)	<u>  x</u> private	<u>  </u> unoccupied	<u>  </u> commercial	<u>  </u> park
<u>  </u> structure	<u>  </u> both	<u>  </u> work in progress	<u>  </u> educational	<u>  x</u> private residence
<u>  </u> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u>  </u> entertainment	<u>  </u> religious
<u>  </u> object	<u>  </u> in process	<u>  x</u> yes: restricted	<u>  </u> government	<u>  </u> scientific
	<u>  </u> being considered	<u>  </u> yes: unrestricted	<u>  </u> industrial	<u>  </u> transportation
	<u>  x</u> not applicable	<u>  </u> no	<u>  </u> military	<u>  </u> other:

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Francois M. Miton and Katherine Jenkins Miton

street &amp; number 8 Timothy's Green Court telephone no.: 410-602-1258

city, town Brooklandville state and zip code MD 21022

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. County Courts Building liber SM 9983

street &amp; number 401 Bosley Avenue folio 687

city, town Towson state MD 21204

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

tit Maryland Historical Trust Inventory

date 1965-on-going    federal   x state   x county    local

depository for survey records 100 Community Place

city, town Crownsville state MD 21032

## 7. Description

Survey No. BA 2554

### Condition

☒ excellent  
☒ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site

☐ moved

date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Miton House is a three-part, two-story log structure with exposed log and chinking. The wood is of cedar. The oldest part of the house variously estimated as 1860 to 1865 is three bays wide with a central entrance. This structure has been regarded as the caretaker's house of the 101-acre Strontia estate of the 19th century.

The original house consisted of two rooms at each level. The kitchen wing, butler's pantry, and one "log room" above are believed to date from ca. 1900. Another complete house unit of two stories with four rooms more was added by Eugene Levering in 1918, producing a laundry room, downstairs bedroom, two second-story rooms, and a bath. The illustration below was furnished by Mr. Scully in 1992; he was owner from 1977 to 1993. Mr. Scully noted that the living room fireplace opening was supported by thirteen vertical bricks, representing the original States of the Union.

This house is significant as an example of log construction techniques persisting into the era of Gothic and Italianate villas and early suburbanization.



8 TIMOTHY'S GREEN ~ BROOKLANDVILLE, MARYLAND ~ CIRCA 1865

# 8. Significance

Survey No. BA 2554

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates Est. 1860-1865 Builder/Architect Unknown

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The two-story log house at 8 Timothy's Green Court stands on a fragment of the 1000-acre colonial land grant called Eli O Carroll surveyed in 1696 for Charles Carroll "the Attorney General." The Carroll family made little use of this property during the first century of ownership. Even the 1798 tax list showed sparse improvements during the ownership of Henry Hill Carroll. At that time, Eli O Carroll was divided into about six tenancies: all of the dwellings enumerated were of log, but none of two stories, none of 30-foot width according to the measurements taken by the assessor of the Federal direct tax.

The 1850 map of the county by J.C. Sidney and P. J. Browne showed a house at this location belonging to O. P. Macgill. In 1850 there was still no Green Spring Avenue cut through to Hillside Road. The Green Spring Avenue Turnpike Company was not chartered until 1858 and it took until 1872-1873 to actually build the road. (Hollifield, Difficulties Made Easy, p. 41). The road seems to have followed the north-south boundaries of some of the fragments of Eli O Carroll sold off in 1832 by Mary Ann Carroll.

Data from Mrs. Aurelia Bolton suggests that the log house was the tenant house of the Strontia mansion to the south. Squared-log houses were still constructed in Baltimore County during the mid-19th century. There was an advertisement in the Baltimore County Advocate of May 4, 1861, describing a house farther out Green Spring Avenue as a "nearly new log dwelling."

The 1877 Hopkins atlas plate of District No. 3 showed the present Timothy's Green lane as the entrance to the Oliver P. Macgill estate on Green Spring Avenue opposite the estate of G.S. Brown. The Brown estate, owned by George S. Brown of the Alex. Brown banking family, is now the main part of the campus of Saint Timothy's School for Girls, probably the source of the name Timothy's Green.

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The 1898 atlas by G. W. Bromley (Plate 27) clearly shows the Macgill house as an L-shaped structure that is certainly the log dwelling that survives today. The 1915 edition of the same atlas showed that Macgill's property had passed to Eugene Levering. Levering had acquired the place in 1911 (Baltimore County deeds WPC 331:433). Mrs. Bolton's data suggests that about 1918 the Leverings built four rooms of log at the rear of the old tenant house to produce what are now designated as the laundry room, downstairs bedroom, two second-story bedrooms, and a bath.

The large house was once known as "Strontia." In 1877, Oliver P. Macgill discovered a mineral spring on the property and formed a company to promote and sell the water for its medicinal value. The public of 1886 must have been familiar with the various mineral water products--this one was advertised as entirely free from sulphate of lime, which probably meant free of gypsum. The full text that appeared in the Baltimore booster book of 1886, City of Baltimore, Half Century's Progress, described the spring water and enumerated the disorders it would cure:

Strontia Mineral Spring Company, Sole Proprietors, No. 49 North Liberty Street.--A leading enterprise in Baltimore is the Strontia Mineral Spring Company, which is fast becoming known as a benefactor to its fellow-citizens in offering a pure mineral water worthy of the name. The Strontia Spring is located near Brooklandville, Baltimore County, Md., on the Green Spring Branch of the Northern Central Railway, about six miles north of the Druid Hill Park, Baltimore. The high elevation of the spring is such that it is absolutely free from surface drainage. The spring was discovered in 1877, and the virtue of the water immediately recognized. The proprietors, Messrs. Oliver P. & Carroll S. Macgill & Co., established their sales room here early in 1886, occupying large and commodious quarters, and are now actively engaged in supplying the demand for this mineral water that comes from all parts of the country, and is rapidly increasing in extent and importance. In offering this extraordinary water to the public, the Strontia Mineral Spring Company desire to call attention to a significant fact, viz.: that a large proportion of the testimonials to the efficacy of the water as a remedial agent are given by eminent physicians and citizens of prominence residing in the city and vicinity of Baltimore; and that its high character as a table water is vouched for by the leading hotel proprietors and restaurant keepers of that city. Therefore the Strontia Mineral Spring Company feel warranted in asserting that a water so well



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indorsed at home is well worthy of the fullest confidence of the public. Strontia water, while possessing astonishing curative properties, is especially in its highly effervescent state, a delightful and refreshing beverage, promoting digestion. Carbonic acid gas, taken in moderate quantities, is known to have a salutary effect upon the stomach and mucous membranes, exciting the torpid digestive organs to action, and removing nausea. Strontia water will give immediate relief tin sick headache, it will cure gout and rheumatism, diabetes, albuminuria, and all curable afflictions of the kidneys. It will relieve any disordered condition of the liver, stomach, and bowels, and restore the tone of the stomach and increase the appetite. It will be found of great service in scrofulous affections and weakness of the lungs. Strontia is distinctively a table water, and is entirely free from sulphate of lime. As a diluent for wines and liquors it stands pre-eminent. Water will be delivered in the city of Baltimore without charge for delivery. The proprietors are well-known Baltimore men, and have built up a large trade at both wholesale and retail throughout the United States.

The Strontia farm was apparently Macgill's county retreat and seems to have been his wife's property, she being Mary Clare Carroll Spence by birth and heiress to part of Eli O Carroll through the will of her mother Mary S. Spence in 1848 (Baltimore City Wills DMP 33:296). Mrs. Macgill's brother N. Carroll Spence acted as her trustee.

The Baltimore County Union of December 12, 1868, noted that Macgill was Register of Wills at Towson. Our Towson data shows that Macgill owned a large frame house next to Trinity Church at No. 104-106 Allegheny Avenue in Towson. Completion of that house was reported in the Maryland Journal of February 26, 1870). In 1875 Macgill advertised as a real estate agent and auctioneer at 8 Smedley Row, Towson (Maryland Journal, April 17, 1875). He was also mentioned from time to time as a "Colonel" in the same papers. The Baltimore County Union reported on May 27, 1876, that O. P. Macgill had moved to the Green Spring Valley. The 1877 atlas patron list gave Macgill's birthplace as Anne Arundel County, his profession as a lawyer, and his "settlement" in this county as 1847.

Many other news items mentioned the spring water: for example, the Union of March 16, 1878, which stated that, "The Chlorine Strontial Water from the farm of O. P. Macgill, Esq., can be

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had in any desired quantity on application to R. Willis, druggist"; that drug store still stands just north of the Towson Library, used today as a sub sandwich shop. On August 17, 1878, the same paper reported that O. P. Macgill had shipped 14- $\frac{1}{2}$  barrels of the water, some of it sent as far as Galveston.

The family was in financial straits in 1879 when the holder of a mortgage brought suit against the Macgills and had the property publicly auctioned (Mortgages JB 62:550). An advertisement for the June 30, 1879, auction can not be found in the Towson newspapers or in the Sun (Cf. Judicial Records, JB 60:223).

The family and its attorney rescued the property from passing into other hands, and George B. Milligan held it as trustee starting September 4, 1879 (Deeds JB 113:231). The O. P. Macgill residence at Brooklandville was reported to have burned (Maryland Journal, November 4, 1882). Mrs. Macgill died in 1888. The next year, a number of "New York tycoons" visited the Strontia Springs on the farm of Colonel O. P. Macgill but the Colonel was not interested in selling the place (Maryland Journal, August 24, 1889).

The Maryland Journal of April 30, 1892, reported the death of Oliver Parrick Macgill at the home of his son-in-law, Talbot J. Albert, in Catonsville. The obituary noted that Macgill was born in 1817 and had once been elected to the Maryland House of Delegates from Baltimore County. He had also been appointed to a post in the Baltimore custom house by President Buchanan. The family genealogy by John Macgill includes a story from the Colonel's granddaughter, Mrs. C. F. Chubb, who recalled of the mineral spring, "He was sure he would make a fortune from it, and would insist on all the young men who called on my mother tasting it, with very embarrassing results, which she used to describe amusingly, with her great sense of humor." (The Macgill-McGill Family of Maryland, 1948, p. 204).

The property was still in the hands of the Macgill heirs and trustees when Eugene Levering bought it in August 1911 (Deeds WPC 331:433). When the second Strontia house burned in whole or part in 1938, its owner, Mrs. Levering, then a widow, moved to "the cabin."

The property passed to Adeliade Gary Brown by the will of Eugene Levering (Wills WJP 22:354). Adelaide Gary Brown by her own will of 1966 left part of the property to Gary Black. Black acquired title to the north part of the farm via trustees Laurence Perin and the Mercantile Safe Deposit and Trust Company in 1972 (Deeds EHK JR. 5324:968). Gary Black, of the A.S. Abell family, in 1975 sold to Timothy's Green Joint Venture (Deeds EHK JR. 5551:955). The south parcel with the third "big house" was left to Perry Johnson Bolton by Adelaide Gary Brown's will in 1977 (Deeds EHK JR. 5233:624).

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name of property:

Miton Log House

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A subdivision plat was filed for "Timothy's Green" in 1975, placing the existing log structure on Lot 5 (B.C. Plat Books, EHK JR. 38:131). The first buyers of Lot 5 were Matthew A. and Isabel Lenner Fine in 1976 (Deeds EHK JR. 5601:444). In 1977, Ronald A. and Cynthia Scully bought Lot 5 from the Fines (Deeds EHK JR. 5784:360).

In 1992, Ronald A. Scully brought the log house to the attention of the Landmarks Preservation Commission's staff and supplied a one-page history and a drawing of the house. Mr. Scully noted that he made television advertising appearances under the name of Ron Riley. 1

The present owners acquired the house from the Scullys in 1993. Mrs. Miton reports making repairs to restore the structure to authenticity. She also reported on a spring of water that continues to flow even through time of drought.

NOTES:

1. Mr. Scully wrote that the house traced back to the Whitridge family, which is not borne out by title search.
2. "Strontian" was a Scottish village in Argyllshire where the element Strontium was discovered. The words "Strontia water" are found in the Oxford English Dictionary, meaning "the aqueous solution of hydrate of Strontium" in the old fashioned chemical terminology of the 19th century. Apparently this terminology suggested itself as a name for the estate.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. BA 2554

John McGill, The Macgill-McGill Family of Maryland (Washington, D.C., 1948), p. 203-204.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 2.37

Quadrangle name Cockeysville, Md.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	Zone	Easting	Northing
C			
E			
G			

B	Zone	Easting	Northing
D			
F			
H			

### Verbal boundary description and justification

See Tax Map 68, Grid 6, Parcel 200, Lot 5 on Plat Book EHK JR 38:131.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
None			

state	code	county	code
None			

## 11. Form Prepared By

Name/title John McGrain, County Historian

organization Office of Planning

date April 22, 1999

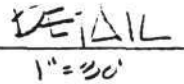
street & number 401 Bosley Avenue

telephone 410-887-3495

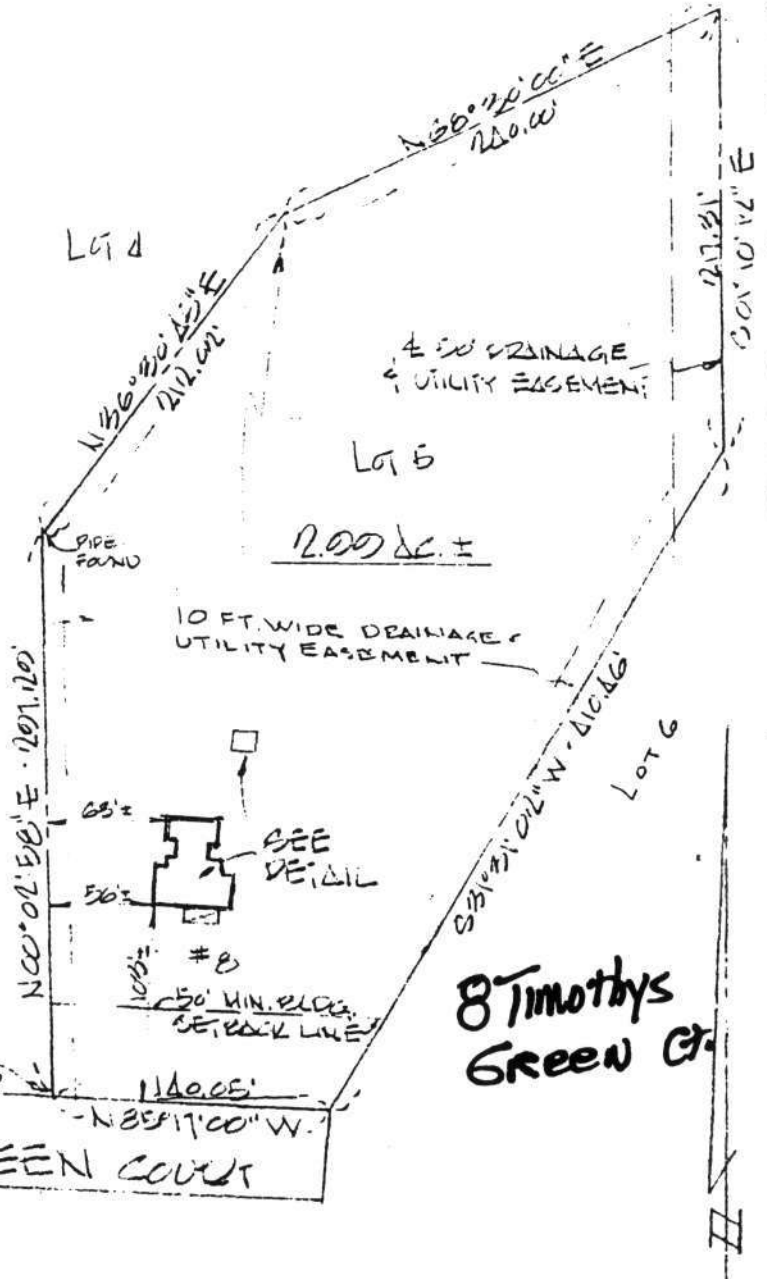
city or town Towson

state MD 21204





EX-10851700  
TIMOTHY'S GREEN COURT



BEING KNOWN & DESIGNATED AS LOT 5,  
AS SHOWN ON THE PLAT OF "TIMOTHY'S  
GREEN", RECORDED IN BALTIMORE  
COUNTY IN PLAT BOOK EHL, AC. 33/131.

8 TIMOTHY'S GREEN CT.  
3<sup>RD</sup> ELECT. DIST. BALTO. CO., MARYLAND

APP. NO.  
14-93809

JOB NO.  
A-3056/A-1180

NOTE: This plat is not intended for use in establishing property lines.

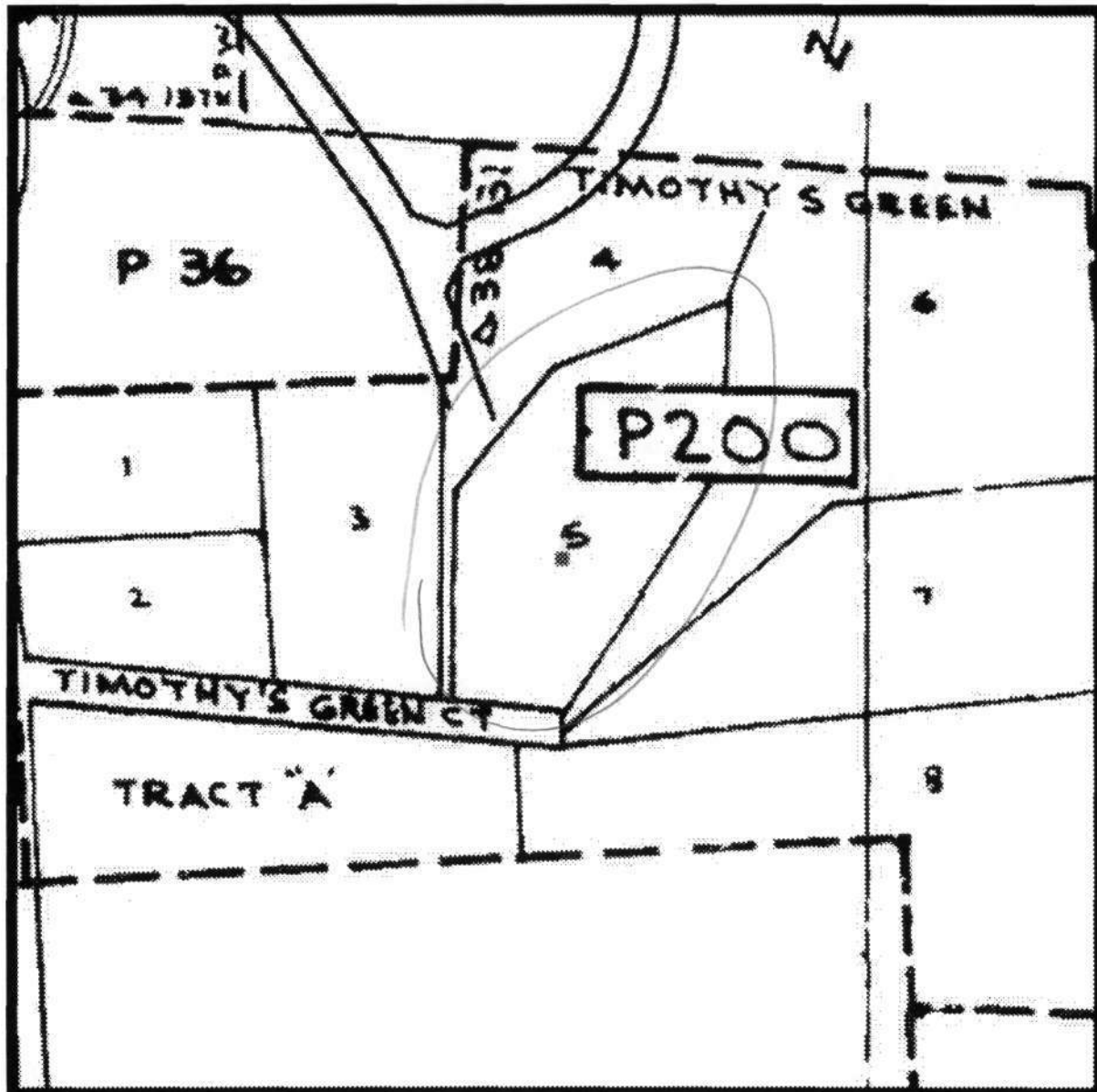
BA-2554



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BALTIMORE COUNTY  
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District - 03 Account Number - 1700004963



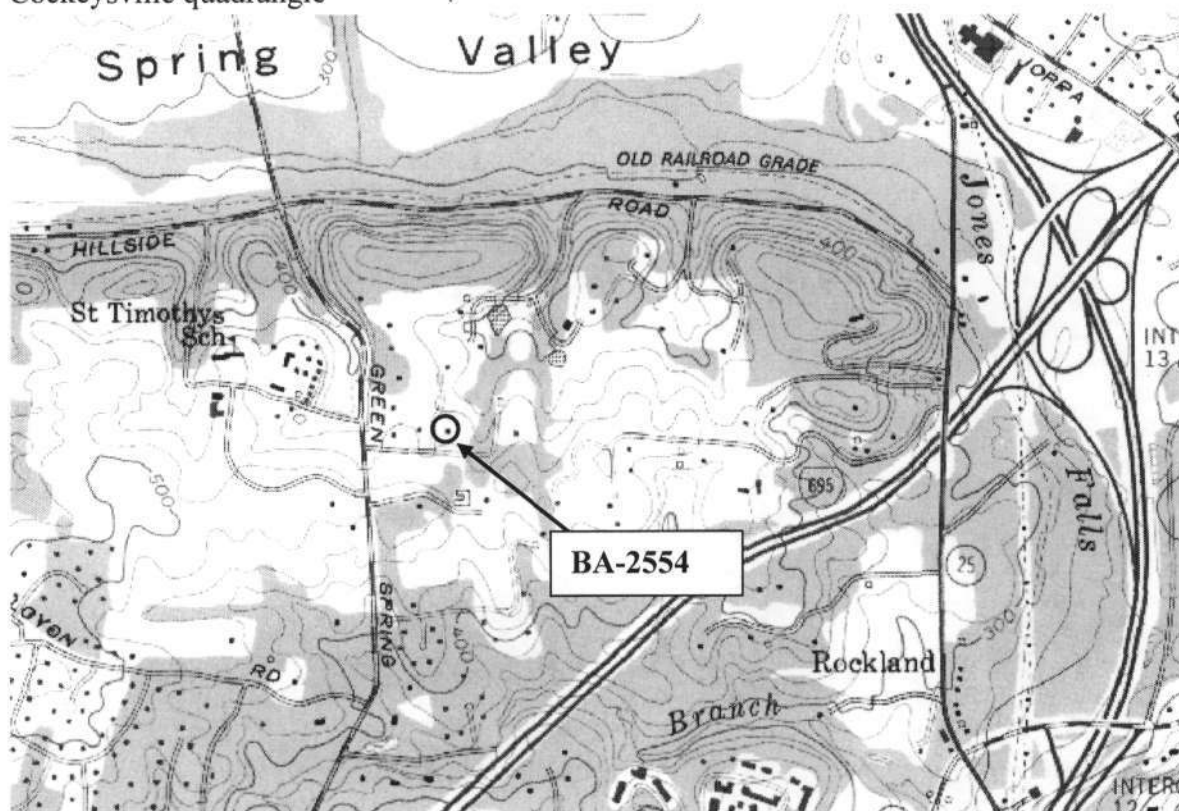
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Miton Log House (MacGill Log House, Strontia Log House)

8 Timothy's Green Court, Brooklandville

Cockeysville quadrangle



Mapquest aerial photo, c. 2007

Baltimore 15' quad, 1904

